BANK NOTE EXPANSION.

HANY NATIONAL BANKS ESTAB. AISHED SINCE REDUCTION OF REQUIRED CAPITAL.

Unprecedened Increase of Institutions and Consequent Expansion of Bank Note Circulation May Cause

There is a boom in the organization of national banks. It has been in progress for five years, or ever since the passage by Congress of the act permitting national banks to be organized with a capital of \$25,000 instead of the minimum of \$100,000 capital, as the law stend prior to March, 1900.

Though the multiplication of small national banks has been going forward at a startling pace it is only recently that the great increase in the number of new banks has begun to impress itself on far-seeing financiers as excessive. It is felt that the unprecedented increase in banks and the consequent expansion of national bank note circulation has either gone so far, or soon may go so far, as to constitute a national menace.

There are many financiers who though they look with apprehension on a boom in national banks, yet feel that we have not reached the danger line and that the country is able to absorb all the national bank note circulation that is likely to be issued on the present bonded debt of the United States.

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It is proposed that at the next session of Congress the bonds to be sold pansion it is thought may prove ex- | bond issue accordingly increased.

cessive. The danger line will be reached when the bank note circulation comes to bear an undue relation to the gold reserve of the United States treasury. The growth in national bank notes in five years has increased their amount from \$216,000,000 to \$478,000, 000, based on government bonds, or about \$50,000,000 per annum. It is calculated that the gold stock of the country increases annually in about the

proportion that population increases.

During the last fiscal year the basis money of the nation was increased by the addition of \$23,000,000 in gold cer-tificates. It is urged that as the bank note circulation increases faster than the growth of the money of redemption, the process tends toward inflation. It adds to the burden of money which the gold reserve must maintain at

No remedy for this situation is in sight, and it is stated that it may be that an unhappy financial depression will be needed to call the attention of the whole country to the necessity for caution in loading up trade with too great an issue of bank notes. At present there is no limitation on the organization of national banks except that they cannot go beyond the bonded the canal is to be constructed on the other, or used in the open seas. The lock principle, this bond issue will recent success attained by the Government floating dry dock at New Orleans, for the construction of the Panama trebled. When the canal is cut down induced the naval officials to decide canal shall also be made a basis for to sea level the cost of construction bank note circulation and this ex- will very nearly be doubled and the

THE ATLANTIC AND BOUND FOR THE PHILIPPINES. Will Require Four Months to Make Trip.—Capable of Lifting Biggest War Ship.—Superior to Stationary

LARGEST OF SHIP DOCKS.

Point, near Baltimore. that this new factor in ship-repair one of the floating variety. In order keel was out of water.

The Largest in the World.

it with feet deep. With an opening of certain \$30,000. valves, enough water is allowed to valves, enough water is allowed to After passing through the Suez rush into sink the great trough until Canal, the squadron of three towing the floor is sufficiently below water boats and the dock will sail through Any surplus water remaining on the and thence to the Cavite naval station, floor of the tank drains off and the ship reaching there just about in time for on becoming dry may be painted, the Easter holidays. cleaned or repaired. The giant leviathan of war is handled as though it were a toy. The "Dewey" has a total length of about 500 feet, and a height of 64 other floating dry docks, or a at Alfeet from the bottom, yet in order to giers, La., but recently completed, and dock a vessel demanding a depth of 30 another at Pensacola, Fla., formerly feet in the trough, the bottom of the stationed at Havana. Before the float

Last spring the battleship Iowa was phia and Mare Island, California, and

lest battleships of the Navy, it can lift itself as well. In other words, it raises its own bottom out of the water while floating only upon its great hol-THE "DEWEY" NOW PLOWING low side box, and the bottom in turn lifts up the side box to a sufficient height to permit of its being scraped, cleaned and copper painted.

Notwithstanding the apparently in-

tricate problems confronted in the construction of such a huge engine, the Navy Department had a still greater problem to solve when it considered The huge storm waves of the Atlanmethods of sending the Dewey to the tic in midwinter seem to roll onward Philippine Islands. The great size of in a resistless torrent of destruction to the machine meant that it could make all in their pathway. But this year they are beating against an indome the Government had had no experitable structure, for the United States Government is shipping to its far-off across the uncertain Atlantic. Hownaval station at Cavite something that ever, the inducement of extra good floats but is yet not a war vessel, a salaries enabled the officials to obtain fortress or a merchant ship. Capable of use in either peace or war, it is a very necessary adjunct to Uncle Sam's were necessary adjunct to Uncle Sam's mous engine provide abundant living Navy. This structure which has been breasting the waves of the Atlantic is the gigantic new floating dry dock, "Dewey," but recently built by the Maryland Steel Company of Sparrows fresh water and the ration allowances fresh water and the ration allowances are double those received by the men they cannot go beyond the bonded The bonded debt is now \$895, in the far East which are available for dock has left the United States, it has debt. The bonded debt is now \$895, one of which \$482,000,000 is used as security for note issues and \$65,000, the gates of these would be barred to posits. An issue of \$130,000,000 of canal bonds has been authorized, and the whole world knows that other issues of canal bonds must be made. If the case of the structure to other, or used in the open seas. The make the trip to the Philippines.

Games for the Mariners.

The great floor of the Dewey is of sufficient size to allow of a regulation should not be stationary, but rather game of base ball, a fact which probably will be taken advantage of when that it might be capable of docking the the warmer climates are reached. largest battle ships, not only of the Should the little fleet meet with a hurpresent day, but of such possible ex- ricane such as might usually be encounpansion as the future might bring tered on the Atlantic in winter, the forth, the Government specifications towing steams could throw off the tow required that the "Dewey" should be lines and the Dewey could be filled able to dock a 16,000 ton ship in four with sufficient water to sink to a depth hours from the time the warrior entered the trough to the moment the after the storm had passed away, while the towing boats could find safe refuge within the dock.

The route taken by the fleet is as Such specifications meant that upon completion of the "Dewey" the Government would possess the largest float ward across the Atlantic to the Ma ing dry dock in the world. The deira Islands, from whence it enters contractors went further than the Government specifications and gave the of Gibraltar, until the Suez Canal is new dock a capacity of 20,000 tons. reached. The traversing of the Suez The question might be asked, what sort of monster is this which floats and faced the officials of the Navy Depart yet can bodily lift the huge fighting ment, but after making careful measterrors of the sea? It is nothing more urements it was found that the dock than a large steel floating box, with a would easily pass through the Canal The fee that the United States the top and ends missing, the bottom ernment is called upon to pay for the resting upon great square tanks, 181/2 use of the Canal for this purpose is

and the great trough rises until the after going through the straits of Ma- irrigation law: floor is well above the wash of the sea. lacca, it will pass up the China Sea

Other Dry Docks.

The United States has a couple of ank sinks to a depth of 63 feet. Float- ing dry dock was considered a success, water.
The United States Government was upon shore, generally of concrete and very strict in all requirements of its granite, with sloping sides and a concontract with the constructing company and insisted that the dock should be carefully tested before being active these, four being situated at Brooklyn. three at Norfolk, two each at Philadel-

NATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS.

GREAT WORK OF THE GOVERN-MENT IN THE SUBJUGA-TION OF THE DESERT.

Thirty-seven Million Dollars to Be

ert lands under the National Irrigation return would be made.

Thirty-seven million dollars for irri-

reclamation law was passed setting aside the proceeds from the sales of public lands in certain Western States and territories for the construction of irrigation works within their borders. The law at the same time provided that every dollar so expended should be returned to the Government by the settlers who take up the lands re-Used by Uncle Sam in the Constructural made an advance of the receipts from claimed. In other words, the nation the sales of certain public property to make marketable other public prop-There is no public work being done erty. Out of the many millions exby Uncle Sam which has, within a few pended by the Government in river years, sprung into such prominence and harbor improvements, not a cent and which promises such substantial has ever been returned directly to the returns as the reclamation of his des- Treasury, nor was it expected that any

> Departments Wide Authority. The irrigation act gives the Secre-



DAM SITE ON THE GUNNISON RIVER.

level for the largest warship to enter the Red Sea between Arabia and Af- work which will be available in the the major portion of the fund arising between the two protruding sides. Af- rica and thence on to the Indian fiscal year of 1908, the sum realized from the sale of public lands within ter the vessel is within the enclosure, Ocean. Singapore will probably be a from the sale of Western public lands each State or territory for the benefit the water is pumped out of the tanks stopping place for the expedition and since the year of the passage of the of their lands, so far as practicable.

Year	En	ding.		
June	30,	1901	 \$3,144,821.91	(
44	30.	1902	 4,585,520.53	
44	30,	1903	 8,713,996.60	i
**	30.	1904	 6,826,253.59	j
**	30,	1905	 4,757,978.87	1
**	30.	1906	 3,250,000.00	1
46			 3,000,000.00	li
44			 2,750,000.00	1
				١.

Total\$37,028,571.50 The estimates for 1906, 1907 and 1908 are made by the General Land

This fund is, according to the law, to be invested by the Secretary of the expenditure of Federal funds in the Interior, in feasible irrigation projects which will repay the amount to the Government, in ten annual installments from the settlers.

The apportionment of the fund by Secretary Hitchcock has been practi- or less adverse criticism and attack, cally completed and the plans matured especially from men who have viewed for expending the entire fund on cer- the reclamation act as a great opportain definite projects in the West, tunity for either direct or indirect perwhich practically brings to an end fur- sonal advancement. The men by whom ther surveys and examinations, and the public domain has long been conpermits the concentration of effort of sidered a legitimate prey, hailed the the Reclamation Service on the build- passage of the irrigation act as an iming of a few important projects.

Irrigation and Rivers and Harbors. the improvement of rivers and harbors. There is a disposition to criticize Congress for permitting the exthe public domain now worthless, and at the same time cutting down the appropriation for work on our national

Apparently the fact has been overan appropriation of any specific sum for reclamation. On June 17, 1902, the

It is a recognized fact that the contributions to the fund from the various States are in most cases not in proportion to the need of those States for irrigation. Arizona and Nevada, for instance, whose lands have contributed very little to the fund, have probably the greatest need and opportunity for reclamation, while on the other hand, North Dakota and Oklahoma, though large contributors, have perhaps the least actual need for irrigation of any of the Western States. In some cases the chief aim of politicians has been apparently not so much to develop irrigation as to secure the section they represent.

Has the Enmity of Land Grabbers. ment as displayed by Secretary Hitchcock has of course given rise to more proved method of converting to their use the nation's resources in the West. There are many people who do not Mr. Hitchcock's vigorous measures, entirely understand the difference be however, have seriously interfered tween the appropriations made for the with their proceedings and they are rectaiming of arid lands and those for correspondingly bitter in their denunciations of his acts.

The States thus far to chiefly benefit through the irrigation law are Aripenditure of millions in making hab- zona, Wyoming, Montana and Nevada, table and productive large areas of although some of them have themselves made to it considerable contributions. Wyoming, because of its strategic geographical position and the fact that much of the water supply of the West originates in that part of the looked that Congress has never made State, must of necessity have the stor-

(Continued on next page,)

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BARONESS VON STERNBURG.

Baroness von Sternburg, the Ameri- | such cases, that the American girl can wife of the German Ambassador should bring to the man of her choice and pre-eminently the most sweetly beautiful woman in official life at t'e national capital, has lately returned to Washington from abroad, a proud its members happened to have \$20,000 and happy woman by reason of the to bestow as a dowry, and for a time miracle worked by a wonderful sur- the course of true love appeared to gical operation performed in Germany run anything but smoothly; but in a few months ago. The Baroness the end the Teutonic officials relented, when a young girl fell from a horse and the couple were married. When and sustained an injury to one limb, Baron von Sternburg took his bride to which has ever since necessitated her the Fatherland, she carried everything w king with a cane.

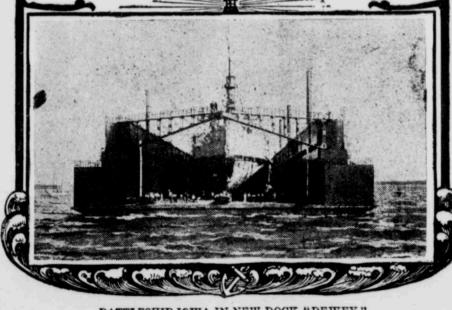
Some time ago an eminent German surgeon performed an operation upon one of the ladies of the royal family who had received an exactly similar injury, and the succes which crowned his efforts was such that the beauiful bride of the Kaiser's envoy in America was induced to undergo similar treatment. For weeks her foot was held in the grip of a plas r cast. but finally the rigid bandages were removed and she was fr a to return to her native land with the use of the

long inefficient member fully restored Baroness von Sternburg, who was Miss Lillian Langham, is a California girl, and her marriage to Baron Speck von Sternburg came as the culmination of one of the prettiest interna-Honal romances in which an Ameri ean girl has figured. The Western beauty and the titled German diplo-mat first met on shinboard while tossing the Atlantic. It came danger ly near being a case of love at first sight on both sides, but the German rovernment, which takes a fatherly interest in its young officers and statesmen, threatened to undo Cupid's northon of their honeymoon at the work by insisting, as is customary in White House.

before her by virtue of her beauty and sweet disposition, and the German Emperor remarked; "If I were an artist, I would wish for nothing better than to paint your portrait."

The Baroness has violet eyes, with long, dark lashes, reddish blonde hair. and a marvelous complexion. Although she is a native of the Golden Gate State, her father was an Englishman and her mother a native of Chicago. This mistress of the German Emhassy at Washington is almost as mu . . . thome in Europe as in America, for she was educated in Paris and Dresder and made her formal entry into society in London.

The Sternburgs are among the closest personal friends of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, Indeed, the dent and Mrs. Roosevelt. Indeed, the Pon, then a mere secretary at the German Embassy, was one of Mr. Roosevelt's cronies in the days when the present Chief Magistrate was a Civil Service Commissioner. The two men rode and walked together almost daily, and naturally the President was delighted when his old chum chose an American girl for his bride, and the Baron and his wife spent a portion of their honeymoon at the



BATTLESHIP IOWA IN NEW DOCK "DEWEY."

was in position, her keel was out of Washington. the water. In the same month, the hours and sixteen minutes.

Win Baffle the Toredo.

One of the most essential needs for a dry dock in the Philippine Islands is caused by the accumulation of a great amount of marine growth upon the hulls of all vessels spending any length of time in tropical waters. Naturally a steel dry dock in such a locality would also become befouled by barnacles, toredos, etc., and it is at this point that a most peculiar feature of the "Dewey" is brought to light, for in many feet deep and does not altegether addition to being able to lift the heav- thaw out in summer.

docked in the "Dewey" and within an jone each at Portsmouth, N. H. hour and a half from the time that she Charleston, S. C., and Puget Sound,

The nearest rival to the "Dewey" United States battleship Colorado, with among the floating dry docks of the a displacement of nearly 2,000 tons world is that at Bermuda. While it is more than the Iowa, was docked in two | 45 feet longer than the "Dewey," its lifting capacity is but 16,500 tons, which is 3,500 tons less than the American structure. In Austria, there is also a floating dry dock of 15,000 capacity, and one in Germany capable of lifting a burden of 11,000 tons.

A Peculiarity of Siberia.

In parts of Siberia corpses that have lain buried for 150 years have been exhumed and found in a state of perEVERYTHING for the GARDEN is the title of Our New Catalogue for 1906-the most beautiful and instructive horticultural publication of the day—
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